

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 6 without prejudice and amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of processing data contained in a digital input image in the form of pixels, said method comprising a blocking artifact detection step ~~(BAD)~~ which artifacts originate from a block-based coding technique, said detection step comprising the sub-steps of:
 - calculating a discontinuity value based on values of a current pixel and of pixels adjacent to said current pixel,
 - determining an artifact value of the current pixel from discontinuity values of the current pixel and of neighboring pixels of the current pixel,identifying blocking artifacts from artifact values,
 - storing a position in the image of blocking artifacts originating from the identification step in a table, and
 - calculating a position of a grid corresponding to the blocks of the coding technique blocks from a majority position of the block artifacts in the table.
2. (Currently Amended) A data processing method as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the calculation sub-step ~~(CT)~~ is adapted to detect a discontinuity if a value of a current pixel is different from a half-sum of a value of the pixel immediately preceding and from the value of the pixel immediately following the current pixel.
3. (Currently Amended) A data processing method as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterized in that it~~ furthermore comprises ing a

gradient filter step ~~(GF)~~ of values ~~(Y)~~ of the pixels, adapted to detect ~~(THR)~~ a natural contour area ~~(NC)~~ in the digital input image.

4. (Currently Amended) A data processing method as claimed in claim 3, wherein~~characterized in that~~ the gradient filtering utilizes a Sobel filter.

5. (Currently Amended) A data processing method as claimed in claim 3, ~~characterized in that it~~ further ~~more~~ comprises a low-pass filter step ~~(LPF)~~ of the values ~~(Y)~~ of the pixels coming from the blocking artifact detection step ~~(BAD)~~ with the exception of the pixels contained in the natural contour areas ~~(NC)~~ determined by the gradient filter step ~~(GF, THR)~~.

6. Canceled

7. (Currently Amended) A data processing method as claimed in claim 6, wherein~~characterized in that~~ the calculation sub-step ~~(GRID)~~ is adapted to determine a grid size from a larger value of the counter values representing a number of times that a distance occurs between a current vertical blocking artifact and a vertical blocking artifact immediately preceding it.

8. (Currently Amended) A data processing method as claimed in claim 16, wherein~~characterized in that~~ the calculation sub-step ~~(GRID)~~ of the current size or of the current position of the grid for a current image is effected as a function of preceding sizes or positions of the grid determined for preceding images and as a function of a confidence parameter

which represents the evolution of the values of said preceding sizes or positions.

9. (Previously Presented) A computer program product for a television receiver comprising a set of instructions which, when they are loaded in a circuit of the television receiver, causes this circuit to carry out the data processing method as claimed in claim 1.

10. (Previously Presented) A computer program product for a decoder comprising a set of instructions which, when they are loaded in a circuit of said decoder, causes said circuit to carry out the data processing method as claimed in claim 1.